

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/798,522

Examiner

Edna Wong

Applicant(s)

LEE, HYUNJUNG

Art Unit

1753

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment dated December 14, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

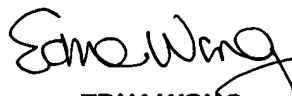
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

  
**EDNA WONG**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims **1-4** are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach or suggest a process for electroplating a conductive metal layer onto a surface of a non-conductive material comprising the steps of (a) contacting, (b) separating and (c) electroplating as presently claimed, esp., the step of (a) contacting said non-conductive surface with a liquid carbon black dispersion comprising:

(i) first carbon black particles having an oil absorption number of at least about  $150 \text{ cm}^2/100 \text{ g}$  as a dibutyl phthalate (DBP) absorption number; and

(ii) second carbon black particles having an oil absorption number of less than about  $150 \text{ cm}^2/100 \text{ g}$  as a (DBP) absorption number.

*Carano et al.* does not contain any language that teaches or suggests the above. Therefore, a person skilled in the art would not have been motivated to adopt the above conditions, and a prima facie case of obviousness cannot be established.

Claims **5 and 6** are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach or suggest a process for electroplating a conductive metal layer onto a surface of a non-conductive material comprising the steps of (a) contacting, (b) separating and (c) electroplating as presently claimed, esp., the step of (a) contacting said non-conductive surface with a liquid carbon black dispersion comprising:

(i) first carbon black particles selected from the group consisting of carbon black

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particles having a surface area of at least about  $150 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$  and carbon black particles having a volatiles content of less than 5% by weight; and

(ii) second carbon black particles, wherein said second carbon black particles have a surface area of less than about  $150 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$  or a volatiles content of more than 5% by weight.

*Carano et al.* does not contain any language that teaches or suggests the above. Therefore, a person skilled in the art would not have been motivated to adopt the above conditions, and a prima facie case of obviousness cannot be established.

Claims 7-11 are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach or suggest a composition useful in electroplating a conductive metal layer onto a surface of a non-conductive material comprising (a) first carbon black particles, (b) second carbon black particles, (c) one or more dispersing agents, (d) an alkali metal hydroxide, and (e) water, esp., (a) first carbon black particles selected from the group consisting of carbon black particles having an oil absorption number of at least about  $150 \text{ cm}^2/100 \text{ g}$ , carbon black particles having a surface area of at least about  $150 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$  and carbon black particles having a volatiles content of less than 5% by weight and (b) second carbon black particles, wherein said second carbon black particles do not have an oil absorption number of at least about  $150 \text{ cm}^2/100 \text{ g}$ , a surface area of at least about  $150 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$  or a volatiles content of less than 5% by weight.

*Carano et al.* does not contain any language that teaches or suggests the above.

Therefore, a person skilled in the art would not have been motivated to adopt the above conditions, and a prima facie case of obviousness cannot be established.

Claims **12-17** are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach or suggest a process for electroplating a conductive metal layer onto a surface of a non-conductive material comprising the steps of (a) contacting, (b) separating and (c) electroplating as presently claimed, esp., the step of (a) contacting said non-conductive surface with a liquid carbon black dispersion comprising:

(i) first carbon black particles selected from the group consisting of carbon black particles having an oil absorption number of at least about 150 cm<sup>2</sup>/100 g, carbon black particles having a surface area of at least about 150 m<sup>2</sup>/g and carbon black particles having a volatiles content of less than 5% by weight; and

(ii) second carbon black particles, wherein said second carbon black particles do not have an oil absorption number of at least about 150 cm<sup>2</sup>/100 g, a surface area of at least about 150 m<sup>2</sup>/g or a volatiles content of less than 5% by weight.

*Carano et al.* does not contain any language that teaches or suggests the above. Therefore, a person skilled in the art would not have been motivated to adopt the above conditions, and a prima facie case of obviousness cannot be established.

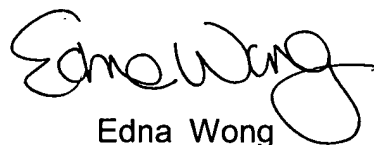
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edna Wong whose telephone number is (571) 272-1349. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7:30 am to 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nam Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-1342. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edna Wong". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Edna" and last name "Wong" clearly distinguishable.

Edna Wong  
Primary Examiner  
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EW  
January 22, 2006